GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:347
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2003
AGREEMENT WITH FOREIGN BROADCASTERS ON AIR SLOTS
NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal under its consideration to sell airtime of All India Radio (AIR) to foreign broadcasters including British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) for news inputs or exchange of Radio programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether any meeting has been held between Prasar Bharati and BBC to explore thepossibility of swapping airtime on each other`s home turf;

(d) if so, whether BBC refused to give a time slot to AIR for airing its entertainment, art and cultural programmes;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith agreement finalised in this regard; and

(f) the manner in which the AIR would be benefited from it?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (f): Prasar Bharati has informed that Prasar Bharati Board took a decision toexplore such an arrangement. However, preliminary exploration in this regard revealed that such a barter arrangement may not be feasible.